



Memorandum

14-029

TO: WIC Regional Directors
WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Linda Brumble, Unit Manager
Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit
Nutrition Services Section

DATE: March 7, 2014

SUBJECT: Changes to Breast Pump Troubleshooting Guidelines

The breast pump troubleshooting guidelines have changed in the *Breast Pump Reference Manual*, Stock Number 13-06-12146.

Local Agencies (LAs) are advised not to use the analog gauges to proactively test breast pump suction and/or to troubleshoot breast pumps returned to the clinic by participants. Because the analog gauges do not measure breast pump suction as accurately or reliably as desired, Texas WIC will discontinue use of analog gauges and begin following procedures similar to those used for troubleshooting retail breast pumps.

Upon issuance, LAs should inform participants to contact WIC without delay if their breast pump seems to be losing suction. If a breast pump is returned by a participant, LAs are advised to continue to follow the basic troubleshooting guidelines on pages 23 – 26 of the *Breast Pump Reference Manual*. If the troubleshooting guidelines are followed and low suction continues to be suspected, staff should issue an entire replacement breast pump (including a new kit, motor, and bag) to the participant, then contact the vendor regarding warranty issues. Please be prepared to return to the vendor the entire breast pump (including the kit, motor, and bag).

Vendor contact information is available in the *Breast Pump Reference Manual*. Please remove pages 27 – 28 of the *Breast Pump Reference Manual* until a revised version is released. Additionally, please note on page 6 that LA funding should not be used to purchase new analog vacuum gauges. All remaining analog vacuum gauges may be recycled or disposed of.

Should you have questions or need assistance, please contact Faith Njoroge, the new State Agency Breast Pump Coordinator, at (512) 341-4575 or faith.njoroge@dshs.state.tx.us. Please update her contact information on your *Local Agency WIC Staff Breastfeeding Referral List*.